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Attorney Docket No.: DEX-0117
Inventors: Salceda et al.
Serial No.: 09/721,183
Filing Date: November 22, 2000
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REMARKS

At the outset, Applicants respectfully point out that listed pending claims of 3-5 and 18-37 on the Office Action Summary Sheet is incorrect. Pending claims of the instant application include 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 18-37. Correction of the pending claims to include claims 6 and 7 is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 18-37 have been allowed.

Claims 3-5 have been rejected, however, under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Reed et al. (U.S. Patent 6,432,707. The Examiner suggests that Reed et al. disclose a polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:107 which would hybridize under stringent conditions to residues 684-1677 of SEQ ID NO:3 and residues 7578-8585 of SEQ ID NO:20.

Accordingly, in an earnest effort to advance the prosecution of this case, Applicants have amended the claims to delete any reference to SEQ ID NO:3 and 20 from the claims. Applicants reserve the right to pursue this subject matter in a continuation or divisional application.

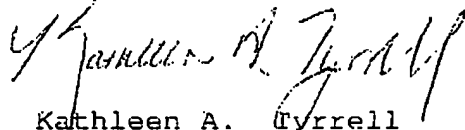
Withdrawal of this rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

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Applicants believe that the foregoing comprises a full and complete response to the Office Action of record. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and subsequent allowance of the pending claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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